REMARKS

The indication that claims 1 - 10, the only claims pending in this application, are allowed, and that this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, claims 8 and 9 have been amended to overcome the objection thereto and the informalities noted by the Examiner utilizing the Examiner's suggested amendment of the claims, while correcting other informalities. Accordingly, applicants submit that the objection to claims 8 and 9 and the informalities noted by the Examiner therein should now be overcome.

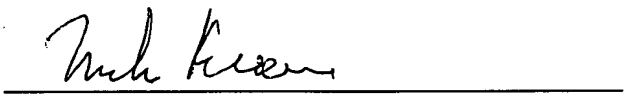
Additionally, by the present amendment, the objection to the abstract of the disclosure should be overcome in that the abstract has been amended to eliminate the utilization of "means" language therein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that the informalities noted by the Examiner have now been overcome and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 500.43203X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



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